

43 (new): A device for heat-decomposing a sample containing organics comprising

- a closed appliance containing the sample and comprising, in the absence of firing means:
  - a) a heating section, containing the sample, in the form of an axially aligned tube, open at only one of two opposing ends, having a length between said opposing axial ends of at least 10 cm and being molded of material that withstands (i) corrosive gases, (ii) oxidative corrosion, and (iii) heating to a temperature of at least 600°C; and
  - b) an introducing section that cooperates with the open end of said tube to seal the open end and, thereby, close said heating tube for heat decomposition of the sample inside the tube, said introducing section including means for introducing liquid through said introducing section into said closed heating tube;

wherein heating the appliance is effected only by external means, said appliance containing no source of heat,

- an appliance-installing section to install the closed appliance containing the sample,
- heating means to heat the closed appliance containing the sample in order to heat-decompose the sample into testing components, and
- moving means to reversibly move the closed appliance from the appliance-installing section to the heating means.

44 (new): The device of claim 43 further comprising

- cooling means to cool the closed appliance after heat-decomposition of the sample,
- injecting means to inject an absorbing liquid into the closed appliance through the introducing section after cooling for absorbing by, and dissolving of, the testing components, and
- mixing means to uniformly distribute the dissolved testing components in the closed appliance,

wherein the moving means reversibly moves the closed appliance from the appliance-installing section to any of the heating means, cooling means, injecting means, and mixing means.

45 (new): The device of claim 44 further comprising

- sampling means to sample the dissolved testing components in the closed appliance and move the dissolved-testing-components sample to
- analytical means to analyze the dissolved-testing-components sample.

46 (new): The device of claim 44 wherein

- the introducing means comprises a packing or septum that can be pierced by a needle pipe and
- the injecting means comprises
  - a) a needle pipe connected to
  - b) a motor buret through
  - c) a valve with actuator and

- d) a mechanism for (i) moving the needle pipe to pierce the packing or septum and  
(ii) moving the needle pipe to a needle-pipe washing port.

47 (new): The device of claim 44 wherein the closed appliance has a centering axis and the mixing means reciprocates the closed appliance along the centering axis while rotating the appliance about the centering axis.

48 (new): The device of claim 44 wherein the moving means comprises a motor robot with a mechanical hand that carries the closed appliance.